

Matthew 4:1-11 (NIV)
Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

Pastor Joseph Clark – November 28, 2020

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted^[a] by the devil. **2** After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3** The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’^[b]”

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6** “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you,
and they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’^[c]”

7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’^[d]”

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’^[e]”

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Satan is only as strong as we are weak. He is only as frightening as we are fearful. We cannot defeat him and resist temptation on our own. We must follow Christ’s example and deflect the enemy by turning to
The Word of God.

"All of us are not subjected to the same weaknesses and temptations...Regardless of what it may be, be sure that Satan will tempt you at your weak point, not the strong."

– Rev. Billy Graham

"Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means—the only complete realist."

– C.S. Lewis

"His (Satan's) first step is to make temptation appear as a natural desire. It is something unequivocally physical and human."

– Ravi Zacharias

"Be aware of your weaknesses. Bring them to God before Satan brings them to you!"

– Max Lucado

Sources:

“BibleGateway.” New International Version (NIV) - Version Information - BibleGateway.com, www.biblegateway.com/versions/New-International-Version-NIV-Bible/.

Logan, Cally. “30 Inspirational Quotes for the Kids in Your Life.” Crosswalk.com, Salem Web Network, 22 Oct. 2018, www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/inspiring-quotes/inspirational-quotes-for-kids.html.